

Belgravia Community League

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Contact us:

Email: info@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Phone: 780-437-1866 (phone currently not monitored as hall host hours cancelled)

COVID-19 Response Team: 780-802-3666 or

pastpresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Hall host hours:

Cancelled

Visit us online:

@belgraviaYEG (twitter)
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https://www/belgraviaedmonton.ca (website)

Next Submission Deadline:

September 15, 2021

Advertise in the belgravian:

adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Banner Photo: Taking it to the Streets in Belgravia off-leash park by Cam McGregor

the belgravian

September 2021

Issue Highlights:

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BCL Community League Day and AGM

Please look forward to enjoying some musical entertainment and fun treats - while keeping socially distanced and safe!

Saturday, September 18th From 1:00pm-5:00pm Belgravia Community League Building

2021 BCL Board & Committee Contacts			
President	Cory Dawson	president@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
Vice President		vicepresident@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
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Pumpkin party, Casino	Reg & Jane Norby	norby@shaw.ca	
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Rink manager	Simon Gosgnach	rinkmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
Arts park team leader	Kathy Goble	facilities@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
Sustainability Coordinator	Imogen Sellman	sustainability@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
Community Connections			
Neighbourhood Resource Coordinator	Kate Russell	kate.russell@edmonton.ca	
Belgravia Elementary Liaison	Cory Dawson	info@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
U of A community consultation		director4@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
Belmac Soccer Coordinator	Carley Haynes	belmac@belgraviaedmonton.ca	
Belgravia Watch	Richard Law	belgraviawatch@gmail.com	

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For more information, please contact David Cass (d.cass@ualberta.ca)

BCL Board Updates

Upcoming Board Treasurer Position

The BCL Board is seeking to fill the Treasurer position. This position is responsible to manage an annual budget of approximately \$75,000; issue payments as needed; provide monthly financial reports to the Board; and Coordinate an annual audit of BCL finances. Training and mentorship is available.

For additional information, please contact Cory at president@belgraviaedmonton.ca

No Rink-Y-Dink Outfit

The last time any significant repairs were done on the community rink was in the mid 90's. The boards were definitely showing their age with cracks, breaks, rot and dangerously exposed screws. It was time to put some effort and resources into it.

We formed a community "Rink Team" and gave the rink the attention it needed; repair/replace boards and then paint. This was done starting in April and completed in July. The team persevered through first cool, damp weather and then through blistering heat to get it done. 65 volunteer hours were graciously donated by the dedicated team and a huge "Thank You!" goes out to: Simon, Jerreck, Jared, Larry, Eleanor, Bruce, Darren, Jim, Ethan, Alex, Ben, Phil, Kornel, Kathy, Saxon and Finn.

The repairs made should last 4-5 years. This will give us enough time to decide what we want to do with the rink moving forward and how we'll pay for it – stay tuned. BCL intends to explore beautification options; please contact me if you would like to provide input.

Thanks all!!

Ken Goble BCL – Facilities Director

Planning & Place Update

From Mid-June into early July, the City of Edmonton conducted preliminary workshops gathering input into a planned overhaul to Edmonton's Zoning Bylaw. The Zoning Bylaw outlines what is/isn't possible to build on a piece of land and/or how you can use it, so changes can have major impacts on what you, your neighbours, and the City can do with their properties.

Belgravia Community Planning Committee (BCPC) attended workshop meetings to understand what changes to expect and advocate resident concerns on their behalf.

The workshops were very preliminary and topics fairly broad, but certain key matters could be gleaned:

- Total number of zones are planned to be reduced
- Total number of use classes are planned be reduced

What this means is that multiple zones & uses will likely be collapsed together and/or redefined. While details on what these collapsed zones & uses will look like are unknown, it will mean that under the new zones, building forms and the permitted activities within each zone will be expanded from where they are today.

The City wants to move from predominantly use-based zoning to a hybrid of use-based & form-based zoning. Rather than focusing on developing plans & zones around what uses are possible where, the City will move to a more hybrid approach that factors in some building form considerations (ie what it looks like) in at least some of its zones. For example, factors like heights, setbacks, and articulations of buildings would become more prominent in decision making than limiting what businesses could operate in a given area.

A new mixed-use zone will be introduced. Moving away from separated commercial & residential zones, the City will be aiming for at least one mixed-use zone to allow commercial to operate in the same complex as residences. Recent small changes to the RA7 & RA8 zone have already started permitting these developments, but it's expected the new standard mixed-use zones will greatly expand these changes.

In Q1 2022 the City is expected to re-engage on this matter, and provide a draft of specific Zoning Bylaw changes for review and discussion closer to this period. The BCPC will continue to advocate on behalf of Belgravia residents, so along with providing updates

For any questions or comments on the Zoning Bylaw Renewal, please contact zoningbylawrenewal@edmonton.ca and/or planning@belgraviaedmonton.ca.

Sincerely.

Jerreck Connors - Planning & Place Director

City of Edmonton is looking for feedback on Metro 78!

Visit https://engaged.edmonton.ca/metro78 by September 6th to contribute.

Questions: planning@belgraviaedmonton.ca

the belgravian

Published by Belgravia Community League, the Belgravia newsletter reports on the community news, programs and events in and around the Belgravia area.

Frequency

We publish 6-7 issues per year

Monthly Distribution

We deliver approximately 1000 copies to homes in Belgravia.

Online

https://belgraviaedmonton.ca/newsletter/

Advertising

Advertisements should be submitted to adsmanager@belgraviaedmonton.ca

Advertising for businesses located outside of Belgravia, McKernan, and Windsor Park are limited to business card size.

Editorial Submission

Submission are subject to editorial discretion and available space. To submit an article email newsletter@belgraviaedmonton.ca

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Schedule

Issue	Content Deadline	Delivery
September 2021	Aug 18	Aug 28/29
October 2021	Sep 15	Sep 25/26
December 2021	Nov 17	Nov 27/28
February 2022	Jan 19	Jan 29/30
April 2022	Mar 16	Mar 26/27
June 2022	May 18	May 28/29
August 2022	July 14	July 24/25
October 2022	Sep 15	Sep 25/26
December 2022	Nov 17	Nov 27/28



Community Heart

As the candidate with both business and community experience, I understand that for our ward to thrive, we must focus on both business and social issues. There is no time to waste!

www.sfield.ca

REQUEST A LAWN SIGN OR BOOK A COFFEE PARTY WITH THE CANDIDATE info@sfield.ca

Taking it to the Streets by the Edmonton Folk Music Festival at Belgravia off-leash park

Photos by Cam McGregor by Debbie Smith

A roaring success!! Belgravia was chosen to enjoy with no cost to us. After a long period of restrictions, the concert was a perfectly timed event to enjoy very talented musicians in our own neighborhood. It started very tentatively with severe thunder and lightning threatening to derail the concert, however the Edmonton Folk Music Festival had faith that it would clear and it did! After a short delay, they were able to set up, the sun came, and so did the local fans. It was amazing! The off-leash dog park provided a large space for social distancing and for families to bring their dogs and lawn chairs to relax and enjoy the music. A great memory! We would like to thank the Edmonton Folk Music Festival for making our year by choosing us and making it so special. Next summer the Edmonton Folk Festival is back to normal, so make sure to attend and support this amazing event. To relive the magic, please enjoy the following video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=q24rV4vCypM

Thank you to Claire Stewart, Artist Liaison, Kate Russell (Edmonton Neighborhood Resource Coordinator), Barb Krahn, Christina Lau Hoang, Irene Andersson, Cam McGregor and his photography, Jeanette Bowman, Ken Goble, Jerreck Connors who all contributed to making this a success!





Programs at the Belgravia Community League are back!

Contact PROGRAMS@BELGRAVIAEDMONTON.CA to sign up

NIA DANCE:

Nia is a dance-based fusion fitness practice suitable for all age and fitness levels. Nia is a non-impact movement practice and, typically, done in bare feet but if participants need shoe support, please wear insideonly non-marking footwear that is easy to move in. Comfortable clothing, a yoga mat, and a water bottle is also suggested. For more information about Kirsten Bartel and Nia, please email fleurishmovement@gmail.com or go to fleurishmovement.com. We have room for 5 to 10 people.

Cost: \$120/8 weeks (drop in is also welcome at \$20/class)

Thursdays 7-8pm Sept 30/21- Nov 18/21 7-8 pm for a total of 8 weeks

SOAPSTONE CARVING:

This very popular class is returning with Pat Galbraith as the instructor to help you carve ART from soapstone! Pat will guide you through all the steps for 2 hours each Monday evening. We have room for 15 students. For more information about the class email Pat at patgal@shaw.ca

Mondays 7-9 pm OCT 4/21 - Dec 13/21 (\$150 for 10 weeks)

Walking Group:

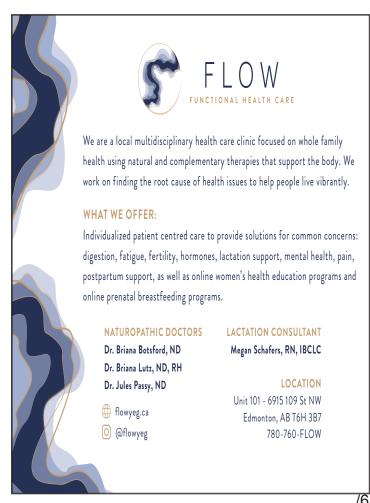
Meets every Wednesday morning at 10 am. This isn't a class but neighbors getting together at no cost to enjoy the trails and enjoy nature. We have regulars that rarely miss a walk but all are welcome to join in. It's very good exercise at a pace dependent on the walkers and varies from 1 to 2 hours depending on the weather etc. Usually walkers will end at MOOD CAFE for a cappuccino so bring a debit card just for this.

PROGRAMS in demand: We have Belgravians asking for CHAIR YOGA so if you are a teacher, please contact programs to get registered to teach! We are looking for Teachers that would like to register their class! Students, let us know about the class you are looking for and we'll do our best to provide the program.

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Linda Steinbring lindasteinbring3@gmail.com 780-435-4657



Community Updates

Keillor Point Art

By: Roger Laing

Visitors who have stopped by Keillor Point since it opened have often been confronted by graffiti, especially on the concrete benches. The City has provided permission for artist(s) to paint original pieces on all three benches. The Community League has set aside a budget for the project.

We are looking for a few community members to join a committee that will make decisions about how to select the artist(s), oversee the the selection process and approve the designs. We hope to make decisions over the winter so the painting can be done when it is warm enough in the spring.

If you are interested, please email Roger Laing at rogerlaing8@gmail.com

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FIND Edmonton Donation and Big Bin Waste Disposal Event

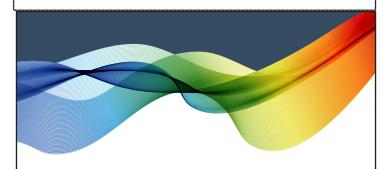
Saturday, September 25th 9:00am - 4:00pm @ Belgravia Elementary School Parking Lot

- You will <u>require a BCL membership</u> to dispose of household waste at this event.
- Reusing items reduces waste, prevents items from going to landfill, and helps conserve resources.
- Donations such as furniture, art, kitchenware, sporting goods, newer TVs can be made to FIND Edmonton (https://findedmonton.com/pages/what-we-accept).
- For disposal, we will NOT be accepting household hazardous wastes (automotive, batteries, chemicals, lighting, paints etc.) or large appliances, mattresses, or automobile tires.

Look for more information and reminders via e-blast, website and Facebook announcements.

Please contact Christina

(director2@belgraviaedmonton.ca) if you have any questions, or need help with transporting FIND Edmonton donations to the event.



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Charles Simmonds Park Renewal

The Charles Simmonds Park Renewal project is nearing the end of the first phase in the City's process for neighbourhood park development. Our next step will be to request approval from the City to proceed to the Concept phase. We have just completed our Needs Assessment Survey which is the first of many opportunities we will have to update the community and solicit feedback throughout the project. If you'd like to get involved in this project please email gfs@shaw.ca Thank you to everyone who participated in the Charles Simmonds Park Needs Assessment Survey. We received 161 survey responses.

The community surveyed included local residents in McKernan and Belgravia, and surrounding communities (Windsor Park, Park Allen). The survey's primary audience was for local residents and users of the park including families, neighbours and community groups. The survey was promoted at Charles Simmonds Park in person and signage, in community newsletters including the McKernan Messenger and The Belgravian in February-April 2021, McKernan and Belgravia Community Leagues email, Facebook and websites. The survey was also promoted at community day cares, pre-schools, elementary-junior schools, local businesses and church groups. The survey was made available online via Survey Monkey, with printed copies in newsletters and delivered to local residents.

The Needs Assessment Survey results showed that the quality of the Charles Simmonds Park that is valued the most by the community is that it is an open green space and allows multiple types of activities by local residents.

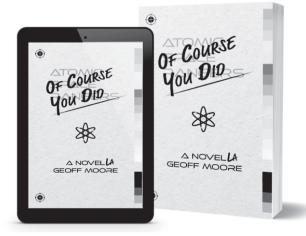
Over 30% of respondents used the park daily and 30% weekly, all year round. Of the respondents, 60% supported upgrades and/or additions to the park and 21% supported upgrades.

Upgrades to the playground were considered the most important whilst preserving the open green space for free play, picnics and social gatherings. We will be sharing the details of the survey results with the Belgravia and McKernan communities over the next two months and there will be more opportunity for suggestions and feedback when we enter the concept phase of the project.

In the meantime we'd like to get a better idea of what activities the children in the community would like in the playground. We're inviting your family to visit six playgrounds in south Edmonton before the end of October, 2021. Enter each child's age and what two activities they enjoyed most on our website. This will provide us with more information for moving into the concept phase of the park renewal. If you have any other playgrounds you particularly enjoy, you can share that information as well.

The website to enter your playground preferences is: http://www.charlessimmondspark.ca.dream.website (we will not collect any identifying or personal data and all responses are anonymous)

"Forgot to mention, wear dark clothing. Rubber soles."



Belgravia author Geoff Moore has released Of Couse You Did

Meet the world's most dangerously average brothers. The FriesenPress publication is set on this side of town, in and around our neighbourhood. And outer space too.

Order it from your favourite bookshop or visit **www.megeoff.com**

"This is Moore at his quirky best: very funny and more poignant than ever."

- Robin Brunet, bestselling author of Dirty Truths

Meet your neighbour - Block connector spotlight Fernanda Badano

By Irene A.

Fernanda and I met several years ago when our daughters started Kindergarten at Belgravia school. One day in the spring of 2020, I told her about the neighbourhood connector job that I got with the BCL to help make Belgravia an even better place to live. Fernanda immediately showed interest in the idea of Abundant Belgravia. In an abundant community, we strive to enhance safety, co-create care for children and elderly, exchange knowledge or "stuff", promote the local economy and take care of our immediate environment. I'd say that Fernanda has touched on most of these areas in her intentional neighbouring efforts as a block connector. Here's our recent email "interview":



My husband Sebastian and I are originally from Uruguay,

and left to North American in 2004 to pursue graduate degrees at the University of Washington in Seattle. After 6 years there, Sebastian was offered a position at the University of Alberta as a professor of Economics so we moved to Alberta in 2010. My first experience in Edmonton was on the May long weekend when it snowed...it was quite the shock! But we loved that we had so many sunny days compared to Seattle, even if it was super cold, and that we had the fall season again which in Seattle doesn't really exist.

We moved to Belgravia in 2013 and have been living here since then, with our daughters Lily (9) and Abby (5). Lily is in 4th grade at Belgravia School, and Abby will start kindergarten this September also at Belgravia. She can't wait to learn how to read!

Now that Abby knows how to ride her bike without training wheels, we are trying to go out for bike rides as much as possible, and hike in the river valley, especially now that both Sebastian and I are working from home. When you can see deer, owls, hares, and even skunks around our house it is easy to forget that we are in the middle of the city!

Sebastian continues to teach Econometrics at the UofA, remotely since last September, and also focusing on his research. I founded an IT consulting company last year called Dura Digital, which was fun, exciting, and terrifying all at the same time. My company provides strategic and engineering services to clients in North America, from delivery centers in Edmonton and Seattle, but also from Latin America. I love the fact that now I can speak in Spanish for work, not just at home!

We love the fact that we have great neighbors! They are always ready to help with our house when we are not in town (big shout out to Mel and Maureen!), they bring us chocolates for our kids on Easter, that you can call and say "we are in quarantine and would like to bake cookies. Do you happen to have sugar?" and five minutes later you have a big bag of sugar delivered to your house (big shout out to Gerry and Jack!). We love that our kids can walk across the street to play with their friends. That sense of community is what we like the most about Belgravia.

What could be better is how fast cars drive through our street, especially when people are driving back from work, which makes 119th not the best place for little kids to play outside. During the pandemic things have been better because there are less cars in the streets, but that will change once things go back to normal.

One of the main reasons for me to become a block connector was to learn who our neighbors are. It is so easy to live next to people for many years without ever learning their names! That for me has been a big change; if feels easier to stop by and chat with someone when you know their names. Hopefully soon we will be able to organize social gatherings again so that everyone in our block can get to know each other better! A few others and I recently applied to host a "Folkfest take it to the street" music concert on our street, fingers crossed we'll be selected!

History of Belgravia - Fourth Edition Excerpted from "Early Market Gardens in Edmonton"

by Katherine Koller Published online 2021 by Edmonton City as Museum Project: https://citymuseumedmonton.ca/2021/07/13/early-market-gardens-in-edmonton/

Surrounded by rows of towering tomato, cucumber and pepper plants in a greenhouse near Edmonton, I marvelled at tapas from locally sourced ingredients at an Alberta Open Farm Days dinner. As I enjoyed inventive and delicious small plates brought to the long table under the glass roof and lazy August sun, I wondered how the first city dwellers obtained their veggies. I wanted to know how the produce grown then reflected the times, the needs, and the tastes of Edmonton's early citizens.

Farmland along the river eventually gave way to houses. MacGregor, in Edmonton: A History, describes early city properties: "On the back of most lots, with a wisp of hay curling out of its loft and a pile of manure behind it stood a stable big enough for two or three horses, and sometimes a cow... Gardens, which supplied vegetables all summer and potatoes for the whole winter filled the rest of the back yard. In many cases, potatoes decorated the front yard." Besides produce that citizens grew at home, Edmonton had "the most modern and largest greenhouse west of Toronto" according to a Chamber of Commerce "Facts About Edmonton" brochure of 1907. A Dominion Exhibition poster from 1906 declared, "The Sun Always Shines in Alberta." Edmonton claimed to be warmer than Calgary, less windy than Saskatoon or Winnipeg, and plants grown here were considered less susceptible to diseases or pests than in British Columbia or Ontario. By 1915, gardeners in Edmonton also had a local seed supplier, Pike & Co. Seeds.

In 1935, there were fifteen Chinese gardens "strung out along the North Saskatchewan River valley from Beverly in the east to Government House in the west." A commentator in the Edmonton Journal enthused about "a veritable Chinese tapestry worked out in rectangles of harmonious greens, sea green, sage green, olive green, and the delicate apple green of lettuce beds." Chin Lock's gardens were on the former site of John Walter's lumber business. Jung Suey and Gee Gut cultivated the riverfront now occupied by Kinsmen Park. Hong Lee developed Groat Flats until the expansion of Victoria Golf Course and the Groat Bridge. Bark Ging Wong operated in Calder.

Hop Sing and another man, remembered as extremely hard workers, operated a huge market garden before and during the war that spanned over six city blocks in Belgravia (including the land now occupied by my house, built in 1949). Previously, these fields may have served as a Depression relief garden, because the Edmonton Journal reports 35 acres in five communities, 15 acres in Belgravia, cultivated by "work parties of men on relief" in 1933. This open tract of land, north of 76 Avenue, is evident on the 1924 city map.



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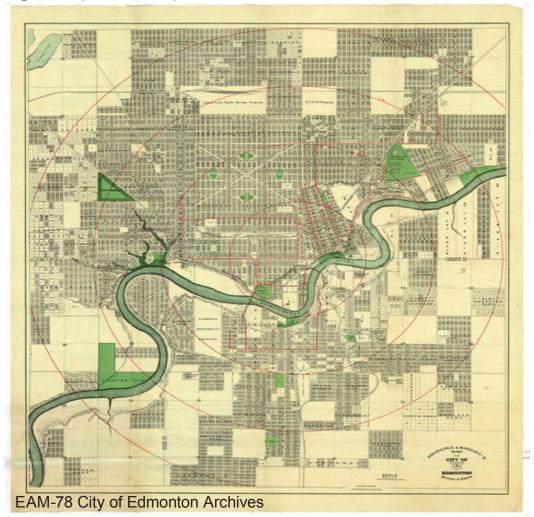


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History of Belgravia (continued)



During World War II, victory gardens were also promoted. A government poster recommended: "Grow more foodstuffs in the garden. Can and store more vegetables and fruit. Live-at-home and help Canada's war effort."During the war, however, "women who took jobs outside the home had less time to tend gardens and preserve produce for winter consumption" and subsequently "out-of-season vegetables became available year-round" at supermarkets.]Lawrence Herzog posits that in 1955, the first enclosed mall in Edmonton, Westmount Shopper's Park, "catered to changing shopping habits and a shifting preference for purchased over homegrown produce." Megastores sprouted in Edmonton in the 1980s. The Edmonton Food Bank also opened in 1980, the first in Canada.

By 2000, there were sixty greenhouses within a 100-mile radius of Edmonton, and today, there are a dozen city markets in Edmonton and surrounding areas. To date, there are also 98 community gardens and 58 gardens in schools supported by Sustainable Food Edmonton. Urban agriculture is also evidenced by Operation Fruit Rescue Edmonton and its Micro-Orchard in the McCauley School grounds.

Since the pandemic of 2020, many people new to gardening are giving it a try. I'm taking some old-time advice from Mary Sernowski, a legendary gardener who sold at the City Market: April is potato planting month. It seems early, but if Mary's young potato plants froze in April or May, she would wait for the next rain, and they would come up again, providing new potatoes in June. As a longtime backyard gardener, I share the desire to seed the garden as soon as possible.

After months of winter, the impulse to plant and produce food in naturally rich soil, under the sun that shines 321 days of the year, runs deep and long in the history of Edmonton.

Into The Garden!

(brought to you by Bonnie Walter at the Green and Gold Garden)

In this article, I would like to provide useful gardening tips specific to the Belgravia area based on our experiences in running the Green and Gold Garden. We have produced many different kinds of vegetables over the years – one of our favorite ones is glorious Garlic. Garlic is enjoyed by many and is EASY to grow here. Begin with the best local organic garlic you can find at a farmer's market. You are looking for the biggest, plumpest, firmest garlic heads. Don't use supermarket imported garlic for seed – some of this garlic has been bleached to look bright and white, it may have been chemically treated to inhibit sprouting, and it may have been grown in a medium that is not acceptable in Canada.

Through trial and error, we discovered that the hardneck varieties are the most likely to provide a good garlic crop in our area. Here is the difference: hardneck has a stalk SURROUNDED by the cloves and has larger wedge-shaped easy to peel cloves; softneck has a stalk that ends ABOVE the cloves so is easier to braid but is generally not as robust in our climate.

We plant our garlic in the fall, around mid-October (weather dependent) so you might be wearing a parka while you do this. Separate the garlic head into perfect cloves. Choose only the largest plumpest cloves as your seed. One clove = one garlic bulb next year. Choose a location with good light and rich well cultivated soil. Plant your clove about an index finger deep (or +/- 4 in.) Make sure your little clove sits with its root side down and pointy head to the sky. Please do NOT peel its skin. Cover with dirt. You don't need to water. Garlic will stay bravely dormant until the warmth and light of spring. If you are planting multiples, plant about six inches apart.

Learn from our Mistake! We lost our entire garlic crop a few years ago because we failed to cover the planted area with mulch. Our area experiences a rather large range of winter/spring temperature; our cloves died because they were not insulated from the change in range! What can you use for free mulch? Any leaves/dried grass clippings raked up from your yard in the fall. The mulch depth should be 8-12 inches. Mulch after the first snowfall and forget til Spring!

When the ground warms as the sun comes around again you can rake off the mulch. Keep the mulch aside then rake it back around the growing plant to conserve moisture. If it is a drought year (like this one was) make sure your growing plants get enough water to thrive (garlic is a thirsty crop). In late spring, hardneck garlic produces a long green curling stem called a 'scape'. This is actually the garlic's brave attempt to produce a flower head! This is nice for the garlic, but sucks energy from the root system down below resulting in a smaller bulb for harvest. You should cut the curly scape (leave the leaves) before it becomes too mature – and keep it to eat! (This year we cut in early July.) Scapes will store in the crisper of your fridge for weeks and freeze well too. Use the scape in your cooking or salads as you would a regular garlic clove – it will have a good strong garlic flavor.

We usually harvest garlic around the last week in July (leaves intact) - first week in August, lay it out in the sun, then set it in a dry place to cure. We hang it in a shed. Never store your garlic in the fridge - it needs darkness and air circulation to keep well. Save your biggest and best head for next year's crop. You will never have to buy/order again - the cloves will produce identical garlic for posterity.

Many blessings for a Good Garden! For information about the Green and Gold Garden see our website: www.greengoldgarden.com